

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 03812 241018Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INSE-00 VO-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 SY-05
DEAE-00 EA-10 IO-13 /039 W
-----117968 242121Z /65
R 240830Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9605
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 3812

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF
SUBJECT: IPP: POSSIBILITY OF JOINT VOLAG REP IN HONG KONG

REF: HONG KONG 2463

1. CONGEN LEARNED FROM RELIABLE SOURCE THAT ACVA CONSIDERING
APPOINTING JOINT VOLAG REP IN HONG KONG AND THAT LEADING
CONTENDER IS WCC.

2. AS DEPT AWARE, THERE ARE FOUR VOLAGS IN HONG KONG WITH
COUNTERPARTS IN U.S. -- CARITAS (USCC), HONG KONG CHRISTIAN
SERVICE (WCC AND LIRS), INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC),
AND INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE (ACNS). NONE OF THESE
FOUR LOCAL AGENCIES GET ALONG THAT WELL WITH OTHERS AND
IF ONE WERE TO BECOME JOINT VOLAG REP, IT WOULD BE RESENTED
BY OTHER THREE. IT WAS FOR THIS AND OTHER REASONS THAT
CONGEN DID NOT QUESTION DEPT ABOUT LACK JOINT VOLAG REP.

3. WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT SOMEONE HAD TO COORDINATE,
WE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF LIRS LETTER SUGGESTING FOCAL
POINT AND CONSULAR SECTION NOW SERVING IN THAT ROLE,
INCLUDING FORWARDING SPONSORSHIP REQUESTS TO ACVA.
ALL FOUR LOCAL AGENCIES AGREED WITH THIS PROCEDURE
AND IT IS WORKING WELL.
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4. WE BELIEVE THAT CONSULAR SECTION COULD CONTINUE
SERVE AS COORDINATOR AND THAT JOINT VOLAG REP HERE
IS UNNECESSARY. HOWEVER, IF ACVA DECIDES APPOINT
JOINT VOLAG REP, IT MUST BE FRANKLY STATED THAT WCC
WOULD NOT BE BEST CHOICE. IF WCC/CWS SENT PERSON
HERE ASSUME THAT ROLE, IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT HKCS

WOULD ASSIST. IN OUR OPINION, THAT LOCAL AGENCY IS
LEAST EFFICIENT OF ALL FOUR HERE AND IF INVOLVED
WOULD VIRTUALLY GUARANTEE DELAYS IN PROCESSING.

5. BASED ON EXPERIENCE WITH ALL FOUR LOCAL AGENCIES,
CONGEN WOULD PREFER HAVE IRC JOINT VOLAG REP IF
ONE IS NECESSARY. CARITAS ALSO HAS PERFORMED WELL,
BUT LOCAL DIRECTOR WORKS THERE ONLY ON PART TIME
BASIS. ISS AT PRESENT WOULD NOT BE GOOD CHOICE
SINCE DIRECTOR HAS BEEN ABSENT FROM HONG KONG FOR
MONTHS, INTENDS RESIGN JOB, AND ISS HONG KONG IS
JOINT VOLAG REP FOR INDONESIA.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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